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Crete about 12,000 years ago, and those at Susa in the Euphrates valley have been placed about 18,000 B. C. In these early days England was still continental and the Thames a tributary of the Rhine.

With the advent of the Neolithic invaders British civilization begins and may be said to be fairly continuous from that day to this. By that time the great beasts which had lived in Britain with palaeolithic man were no more, but the Irish elk and the aurochs survived into the Bronze Age.

The beginning of the Bronze Age in Britain is set not later than 1400 B. C., and about this time another invasion from the Netherlands, Denmark, and Gaul occurred, introducing some portion of the so-called Alpine race of Central Europe, from which came also those fair-haired heroes called Achæan who overran the Mycenaean bronze civilization of the eastern Mediterranean lands. The picture of the life and culture of the Bronze Age is naturally more complete and lifelike than that of the preceding, and we are given a full account of their social organization, agriculture, dwellings, dress, ornaments, etc., with something like the fullness with which we can trace this age in Crete and Greece.

Of especial interest at this point is the extended and sympathetic account of the voyage of Pytheas, that Greek explorer who first made Britain known to the civilized world. Sailing from Massilia about the time when Alexander was invading the far East, this early navigator not only circumnavigated the British Isles but made careful scientific observations of the lunar influence on the tides, of the altitude of the sun at noon at points along the coast, from which Hipparchus could calculate their latitude, and of the manners and customs of the inhabitants. Mr. Holmes settles upon St. Michael's Mount (not to be confounded with Mont St. Michel on the French coast) as the ancient Ictis (literally Channel island) from which the tin was shipped to the mouth of the Loire, thereby rejecting the long accepted etymological identification with the Isle of Wight.

One is impressed anew in the reading of this book by the fact that England, instead of being the "tight little island" she imagines herself to be, has in reality ever been open to invasion after invasion, and that that of the Normans is but the last (up to the present) of a long series the beginning of which antedates written history. About 400 B. C. the Brythons began to enter, from Gaul or Belgium, bringing with them the Celtic language and the use of iron, which by this time had spread over continental Europe. Of their civilization we have even a fuller picture, towns permanently inhabited, currency, operations of mining, works of art, reading and writing, and the Druidical system of religion.

Such they were when Caesar reached them Aug. 26 (according to Mr. Holmes not Aug. 27) 55 B. C. Where did he land and whence did he set sail?

These vexed questions are treated at great length in special excursions of Part II. Unfortunately for our peace of mind, Mr. Holmes himself in his still more recently published translation of Caesar's text changes front again and leaves the question of embarkation still open, despite the fact that in the preface to the book under review he regards it settled forever and is inclined to view with pity those crooked minds who refuse to be convinced by his invincible arguments: "the questions would have been settled long ago if any competent writer had bestowed upon them as much care as has been expended in investigating Hannibal's passage over the Alps". It is well known that the location of the Portus Itius (literally Channel port) from which Caesar sailed has had as many claimants as Homer's birth-city and with about as fair a chance of amicable adjustment. As early as the 15th Century Raymond de Marliano identified it with Calais, but of late the choice has been restricted to Wissant and Boulogne. So excellent are the reasons which Mr. Holmes adduces for his selection of Boulogne, that, were it not for his still more recent change, we might reasonably regard the inquiry as closed.

Equally insoluble has been the question of his landing-place; so said Mommsen, Tozer, and Kiepert. But our author is very sure that all is plain; at least he has not yet had occasion to change his own view. After discussing most carefully the evidence for Pevensey, Lympne (Romney Marsh), and Deal, he decides for the latter, finding that all conditions of wind, tide, and coast configuration are met by assuming the landing to have occurred on the open coast between Walmer and Deal in East Kent.

Other valuable notes follow on "Where did Caesar first encounter the Britons on the Morning after his second Landing?", "Where did Caesar cross the Thames?", "The Site of Cassivellaunus's Stronghold", "Did *Londinium* exist in Caesar's Time?", etc.

Besides many illustrations of prehistoric implements, three excellent maps are included in the volume, and the whole work is carefully indexed.

STEPHEN A. HURLBUT.

In The (London) Nation for September 18, 1909, under the caption *Marble's Language*, in the course of an unsigned notice of that admirable book, *A Literary History of Rome*, by J. W. Duff (obtainable in this country through Charles Scribner's Sons), someone writes as follows:

If every language reveals the character of its race, the Roman language was pre-eminent in that power. Clear, solemn, and brief, it is designed for proclamation, for laws, for the record of events, and, above all, for inscriptions. It is, as St. Praxed's bishop said, "marble's language, Latin pure, discreet". Up till yesterday our fathers found a Latin epitaph easier to write than an English, and to-day

Professor Duff dedicates his book in Latin. The very sight of the letters reminds us of the keen edges of marble freshly inscribed. The form and order of the words is like the construction of a fortress, and in the masters of Roman prose the sentences are compact together, like the cubic stones that built the rampart from the Solway to the Tyne.

Marble found its language in Rome, and wherever the emblem of the Senate and the Roman People appeared throughout the world, there arose the sense of marble permanence and severity. But, as in the endearments of a strong and silent nature, what unexpected pleasure arises when the marble suddenly glows and this language of silence becomes eloquent with passionate emotion! To that very contrast is due much of the peculiar beauty of the Roman poets. Into the language of cold entablatures they have infused the stir and crimson of our common life, and the surprise of finding there also the touch of mortal things gives to those memorable expressions a double worth. So it is when Horace smiles, or when Tibullus calls to his lover to meet him barefooted, with her tangled hair let down, or when Propertius laments the many ladies dead:

Sunt apud infernos tot milia formosarum.

And so it is when Terence shows the girl taking refuge for grief in her lover's arms—*flens quam familiariter*—or when he utters his famous *Homo sum*. Catullus could fire that chilly language with every mood of happy and tortured love. *Odi et amo*, he cries, and every lover knows his meaning. In a single line Lucrétius could picture the vision of man's generations handing on the torch of life, like runners in the torchlight game, and in three lines he could inscribe his eternal panegyric on the master whose soul had journeyed far beyond the flaming ramparts of the world and traversed the immeasurable Whole.

But more than all the others—more even than Catullus—Virgil possessed the secret of this power. Perhaps no ear till Wordsworth came was so sensitive to the still, sad music of humanity, and he compelled that language of stones to utter it. In the mere use of words he had Milton's gift of suggesting intangible associations and inner meanings. As Prof. Duff says in an admirable chapter:

"Words were by Virgil so experimented on as to raise in the mind indefinable associations, transcending the ordinary meaning and transcending ordinary experience. A sense is constantly produced as of some dim realm of moods almost beyond expression—a background consisting of another world".

Instances of that mysterious skill in words are abundant, if we did not forget them; instances, too, of that still deeper and rarer power of sympathy in all human things, of regret over the long sorrows of mankind, of misgiving under the burden of the mystery—the heavy and the weary weight of all this unintelligible world. It was a power hardly to be found again till it reappeared among our fathers little over a century ago; and it was a power that Virgil's imposed theme rather hampered than called out; but in unmistakable glimpses we discover it. We need not recall the "*lacrimae rerum*", but rather let us remember such few lines as:

Non ignara mali miseris succurrere disco.

Or:

Habes tota quod mente petisti,  
Infelix.

Or:

Venit summa dies et ineluctabile tempus.

Or:

Quisque suos patimur Manes.

Or the great passage in the sixth book, beginning:

Ibant obscuri sola sub nocte per umbram

Those and the verses that follow are lines in which one might almost say that the Roman tongue reached its highest poetic accomplishment, and with the music of them vibrating in our memory we may close.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF CLASSICAL TEACHERS IN SYRACUSE

The annual conference of the New York State Classical Teachers' Association occurs on December 30 in Syracuse. There will be a morning session at 9 o'clock, and an afternoon session at 2 o'clock. Both sessions will be held in Room 123, Central High School. A large attendance of classical teachers is expected. The programme follows.

Morning session (at 9 o'clock): President's address, Professor John R. Greene, Colgate University; The Teaching of Ancient Languages, C. F. Wheelock, Second Commissioner of Education; The Academic Syllabus, Principal M. W. Downing, North High School, Syracuse; Some Problems of First Year Latin, Principal H. K. Russell, Owego Academy; Interest in First Year Latin, Miss M. A. Fuller, Cortland High School; On Reading and Translating, Professor H. B. Ward, Hamilton College; Vergil as Literature, Professor H. H. Yeames, Hobart College.

Afternoon session (2 o'clock): The Classics from the Standpoint of an Engineer, Professor W. P. Graham, College of Applied Science, Syracuse University; Vulgar Latin, Professor C. L. Durham, Cornell University.

The annual address under the auspices of the Association will be given at the close of the afternoon session by President Rush Rhees, Rochester University, upon the subject Educational Values.

The forty-second annual meeting of the American Philological Association will convene at Brown University, Providence, R. I., on Tuesday, December 27, at 3.30. The annual address of the President, Professor Paul Shorey, of the University of Chicago, will be delivered at a joint session with the Archaeological Institute on the evening of the 27. The sessions of the Association will conclude on Thursday afternoon, the 29. The programme promises the usual variety of theme, and every effort has been made to secure more time both for discussion and for social pleasures. Reduced rates have been secured as far west as Buffalo and Pittsburgh.

The Archaeological Institute of America will meet at the same time and place.

The next issue of THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY will be dated January 14, 1911.